

FLD

574

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

50X1-HUM

| | | | |
|----------------|---|--------------|-----------------|
| COUNTRY | Bulgaria | REPORT | |
| SUBJECT | 1. Fortifications in the Elkhovo Area; 2. Miscellaneous Military Information | DATE DISTR. | 22 October 1953 |
| | | NO. OF PAGES | 2 50X1-HUM |
| DATE OF INFO. | | REQUIREMENT | |
| PLACE ACQUIRED | | REFERENCES | 50X1-HUM |

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

50X1-HUM

Fortifications in the Elkhovo Area

1. In February and June 1953, Trudovaks were observed excavating trenches south of Melnitsa (N 42-05, E 26-34), Elkhovo Okliya. Circular fortifications on both high and low points, observed between Lesovo (N 41-59, E 26-34) and Melnitsa, were described as having open circular emplacements with dirt floors about three meters in diameter and 50 centimeters deep with underground shelters covered with wood and earth on either side, which are connected with the emplacement by short, inclined trenches.
2. There are two underground concrete constructions in Lesovo, one in the barracks of 3 Komandatura of the Border Guard and one in the village. they are guarded by Army personnel. 50X1-HUM

Miscellaneous Military Information

3. The barracks of an unidentified artillery unit are located in the southeast of Ruse. Buildings include the following:
 - a. A shoemaking shop;
 - b. A shop for manufacturing clothing;
 - c. A bakery; and
 - d. Several barracks buildings.

CONFIDENTIAL

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|------|--------|-------|-------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|
| STATE | ARMY | X NAVY | X AIR | X FBI | AEC | | | | | |
|-------|------|--------|-------|-------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|

(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

CONFIDENTIAL

-2-

Field howitzers with barrels 2-3 meters long and drawn by four or **six** horses were observed in the area. An Army supply unit shares the barracks area and opposite its barracks building is a new concrete loading ramp to the nearby railway line which runs into the western or "Halta" station of Ruse. The ramp is 80-100 feet long and is used by the supply unit and to load agricultural machinery manufactured at the nearby machinery factory.

4. The Danube Naval Base is located at the harbor on the Danube River and is housed in a 3-story building about 40 meters long and 15-20 meters wide. At least 500 sailors are stationed at the base. Ten to fifteen military boats of the "Kateri" type, 10-15 meters long, are kept at the base.

50X1-HUM

5. A powder ammunition factory is located 8-10 kilometers from Ruse in a wooded section one kilometer north of the Ruse-Lipnik (N 43-50, E 26-07) highway. It is surrounded by barbed wire and guarded by the Militia. It is believed that workers in the factory are from Lipnik, which is one to 1.5 kilometers away, or that they are billeted in the factory area because they are not transported to the factory from Ruse.

6. In November 1952 about 200 military academy students were seen in Ruse. They were wearing blue breeches, white-Soviet-style blouses and red caps.

such students, who are 19-20 years old, in Ruse since 1951.

7. In the summer of 1952, reservists, both officers and enlisted men, were recalled in Ruse for training with Soviet weapons which had been adopted by the Bulgarian Army. The officers were released after 40 to 45 days' training and the enlisted men after 60 days.

8. The Classes of 1930, 1931, and 1932 are currently performing military service. **no one in the 1929 class still serving,** **sor-** 50X1-HUM
gymnaziya graduates of the 1933 class were conscripted with the 1932 class, allegedly for officer training.

9. In Border Guard training classes, it is stated that the Bulgarian Army has the services of Soviet specialists. It is not known how many or for what specific purpose they are used.

10. In May 1953, a large number of soldiers were seen training near Konstantinovo (N 42-36, E 26-05) on the west bank of the Tundzha River and the sound of artillery fire could be heard.

50X1-HUM

11.

12. **a new military**
airfield was to be constructed south of the Ruse-Tutrakan road in the "Slatina" Quarter located 5-6 kilometers east of Ruse. At that time, work had not been started on the airfield.

a new stabilized road had been built to the 50X1-HUM
airfield.

CONFIDENTIAL